



Seattle Water Supply Indicators

December, 2006

Water Storage	
Reservoir Inflows	
Snowpack	
Customer Use	
Overall	
Good Fair Poor	

As of the end of November, our overall water supply situation and outlook are good. Last week, 4.0 inches and 4.6 inches of precipitation were recorded in our Cedar and S.F. Tolt River watersheds, respectively. Snow continues to accumulate in our watersheds and is above normal for this time of the year.

Chester Morse Lake is at elevation 1550.2 feet, about 2.2 feet lower than last week, and about equal to its long-term average (based on the years 1989 to 2004). The South Fork Tolt Reservoir is at elevation 1752.6 feet, about 1.4 feet higher than last week, and approximately 3.1 feet above its long-term average.

Water consumption for the previous seven days averaged approximately 106 mgd. That is less than the 107 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 125 mgd used during the same period over the years 1994-2000.



Water Quality Technical Forum Report

Chlorine Residual and Coliform Data

There were two positive coliform samples in purveyor areas during November 2006. Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.3 to 1.2 mg/L, with an overall average of 0.8 mg/L. The chlorine residual targets at the Tolt Treatment Facility and Cedar Water Treatment Facility are 1.5 mg/L. The number of samples with chlorine less than 0.2 mg/L was still low in November.

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel is now meeting every other week. Samples are rated on a scale from 1 to 9, with 1 representing the best and 9 representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the Cedar supply (Lake Youngs treated) samples in November were 1.4 and 2.0. The Tolt supply results were 1.0 and 1.5 for November. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the taste and odor panel results, please e-mail Moya Joubert at moya.joubert@seattle.gov.

Total Coliform Rule

Please remember to return the completed form entitled "Continuation Request for Regional Reduced Coliform Monitoring" back to SPU by December 15, 2006. Earlier is fine, too.

November Rains

The record November rains provided quite the opportunity to test our system. Due to turbidity, the Cedar River diversion at Landsburg was shutdown on November 3rd. Due to the continued rain events, the diversion stayed closed until November 16th. The decision was made to open up the diversion even though the river turbidity was still above 7 NTU. This higher turbidity water mixed very well in Lake Youngs though, and the turbidity at the outlet of Lake Youngs stayed below 1 NTU. By the end of November, the turbidity had dropped to less than 2 NTU in the Cedar River, and Lake Youngs turbidity had changed from 0.25 NTU to 0.75 NTU. All of the purveyors remained in compliance with drinking water regulations, and should not have been affected by this event.

*SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, 206 684-7880 or
Lynn Kirby, 206 684-0216.*



Conservation Technical Forum

On the web at <http://www.savingwater.org>

Addendum to Annual Wholesale Customer Rebate Reports

In October, SPU provided custom reports of 2005 rebate activity to each wholesale customer. At that time, data was not available for the Commercial Pre-Rinse Spray-Head program. That data is now available, and here's a summary: 2005 was the closing year of the program, after great success in 2003 and 2004. In 2005, the program replaced 106 spray-heads in 31 facilities in 12 wholesale customer service areas. If you would like more detail about Spray-Head installations in your service area in 2005, please contact Mialee.

CONTACT: Mialee Jose, (206) 615-1452

National Alliance for Water Efficiency

A new national organization for water efficiency is being formed comprised of diverse stakeholders

including environmental groups, manufacturers, vendors, service providers, utilities, associations, and government agencies. Selection of the new Board for this new organization is now underway, with an interim Board expected to be in office by the first of the year. The Alliance will help promote EPA's new WaterSense labeling program and be an important new national research and evaluation group for water conservation techniques and technologies. The new Alliance will be headquartered in Chicago.

CONTACT: Al Dietemann, (206) 684-5881

CEE Considers a Dishwasher Water Factor

SWP and other utilities currently use the Consortium for Energy Efficiency's (CEE) tier specifications as a basis of qualifying clothes washer models for rebates. Under a proposal now being considered by CEE's Board, dishwashers would, for the first time, be qualified based on both energy and water consumption. This change will enable water utilities and water utilities working cooperatively with their energy utilities to offer customers water rebates based on qualified models. It is expected that the CEE Board will act early in 2007 on this proposal.

CONTACT: Al Dietemann, (206) 684-5881



YOUTH EDUCATION

New Bert Bookmarks

Promote Kid's Page Website

Orders for new bookmarks advertising the new SWP Kid's Web Page are now being taken. They again feature a two-sided Bert the Salmon four color cut-out

image at the top, but are bright yellow to attract interest and convey the new web page color. Side one contains details about the new web page including the access address. The second side contains conservation tips instead of the multiple choice quiz of the former version. The intended audience is kids between seven and 12 years in age.

Bookmarks will be available for distribution after the first of the year. Depending on demand, it may be necessary to limit orders initially to provide equal access.

CONTACT: Mike Mercer, (206) 684-0570

RESIDENTIAL INDOOR

Multi-Family Toilet Rebate Program

A new marketing piece has been developed and circulated for multi-family toilet program customers in PSE's service territory.

The new piece includes a case study of an apartment and its potential

water savings in the SWP rebate program. It also has information about FlushStar and how to participate. Customers who choose to take part in the free toilet program will receive the Western Pottery Aris toilets, which have been given a positive performance rating by those who have installed them. The program currently runs through December 31, 2006 but will be extended into next year through June 30, 2007. Advertisements and articles about the program are running in OnSite and RHA apartment/multi family trade publications through the end of the year.

CONTACT: Billie Fisher, (206) 615-1282



RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE

Irrigation Training Event and Vendor Fair - December 11-14

The Saving Water Partnership, Washington Irrigation Contractors Association, John Deer Landscapes, and the Cascade Water Alliance hosted a 4 day irrigation training event and vendor fair. Most of the sessions focused on improving the water efficiency of irrigation systems; including a half day class on drip maintenance and

installation. The vendor fair highlighted technologies that qualify for rebates under SWP and CWA water conservation programs. For more information, visit:

<http://www.wica-web.org/events.aspx>

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955

Plant List Revision

RC staff met with gardening experts this month to discuss a revised version of the successful Plant List. We are looking at adding additional plants and photographs in the new version, which would be launched next time we need to reprint. Any wholesale customers, who are interested in participating in concept or draft review, please contact Nota.

CONTACT: Nota Lucas (206) 684-5855

savvy gardener

Fall Gardening Classes Expand to Colleges

This fall, we added a second audience for the Savvy Gardener fall classes. These classes typically target residential gardeners. However, this year, staff worked with horticulture and landscape design teachers at Edmonds Community College, Lake Washington Technical College and South Seattle Community College to develop a class that would demonstrate first hand how water conservation and beautiful landscapes can go hand-in-hand. Surveys and focus groups have shown that gardening customers' negative misconceptions about water-wise gardens are major barriers to changing the way gardens are designed and maintained. SWP has partnered with landscape designer Stacie Crooks, who has received national recognition in several gardening magazines, to teach a class to college students in her garden. While all of the community colleges were interested, the 15 Edmonds students who attended the class gave it rave reviews. Students praised SWP for offering a class which allowed them to experience our conservation messages in three-dimensional form and to have time to talk with

the designer in person. Reaching future designers could have a multiplier effect on how landscapes are created. Staff is planning to add more college-oriented classes next year.

Contact: Liz Fikejs, 206-615-0516

COMMERCIAL

Saving Water Partnership is now Offering New Construction Incentives

Construction of new commercial and multifamily (4 or more units) buildings are now eligible for new conservation incentives. By incorporating new conservation technologies, your customer's buildings will use up to 30% less water. To participate in the program customers should visit www.savingwater.org, complete an application form in the Spotlight section and receive a subsequent authorization letter. Application must

be completed and approved done before any fixtures are installed, for more information contact David.

CONTACT: David Broustis, (206) 684-4150

EVALUATION

Regional Water Conservation Benchmark Survey

Staff is working with a consultant on survey analysis. We now have the billing data that will allow us to perform the billing attribution portion of the analysis. This will enable us to look at the relationship between consumption (grouped into high, medium and low categories, looking at average annual as well as peak consumption) and survey responses. Since this aspect of the analysis is new, we are still developing the timeline for analysis completion and report production.

CONTACT: Nota Lucas (206) 684-5855